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Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----------113063 301815Z /44
P R 301759Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7734
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

S E C R E T SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 10418

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: UK, CY
SUBJECT: KYPRIANOU VISIT TO LONDON

SUMMARY: KYPRIANOU, IN HIS MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN, PRESENTED A VIEW OF THE CYPRUS SITUATION WHICH CONFIRMED HIS CURRENT INFLEXIBILITY. CALLAGHAN WAS, AS USUAL, CORDIAL. BUT IN SUBSTANCE UNSYMPATHETIC TO KYPRIANOU'S STANCE, AND PARTICULARLY TO THE IDEA OF FURTHER INTERNATIONALIZING THE CYPRUS ISSUE.END SUMMARY

1. TIMOTHY DAUNT (HEAD SOUTHERN EUROPEAN DEPT, FCO) BRIEFED EMBOFF ON KYPRIANOU VISIT AND MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN. DAUNT STRESSED HE HAD NO AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON PM'S DISCUSSIONS. POSTS SHOULD NOT, THEREFORE, INDICATE TO UK OFFICIALS THAT WE HAVE BEEN BRIEFED ON VISIT, PARTICULARLY SINCE UK EMBASSIES DO NOT SEEM TO HAVE BEEN SIMILARLY INFORMED.

2. KYPRIANOU HAD FIRST INDICATED HIS DESIRE TO COME TO LONDON LAST APRIL. SCHEDULING PROBLEMS HAD LED
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THE UK TO DELAY THE VISIT UNTIL THIS MONTH. KYPRIANOU USED HIS FOUR DAY STAY IN LONDON TO POLITIC TO GOOD EFFECT WITH LOCAL GREEK CYPRIOT COMMUNITY, JOURNALISTS AND OTHERS. HIS ONLY OFFICIAL CONTACT WAS AN APPROXIMATELY 75 MINUTE MEETING WITH CALLAGHAN.

3. THIS CONVERSATION OPENED WITH AN EXPOSITION OF

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KYPRIANOU'S VIEWS. DENKTASH HE MAINTAINED WAS COMMITTED
TO PARTITION. HE THOUGHT THAT ECEVIT WAS AS WELL.
TIME WAS WORKING AGAINST TURKEY. DENKTASH WAS
LOSING THE SUPPORT OF THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY.
IN THIS SITUATION IT WAS PERFECTLY REASONABLE FOR
THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS TO REFUSE ALL NEGOTIATIONS
UNTIL TURKISH TROOPS WERE OUT OF CYPRUS. THE CYPRIOT
GOVERNMENT WAS NOT, HOWEVER, FOLLOWING THIS COURSE.
RATHER, IT WAS GOING FORWARD WITH A TWO-PRONOED APPROACH:
FIRST, TO SEEK TO FURTHER INTERNATIONALIZE THE CYORUS
ISSUE AND, SECOND, TO INITIATE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN
"PRINCIPALS" (I.E., KVPRIANOU AND ECEVIT). IT WAS
NECESSARY TO KEEP THE PRESSURE ON TURKEY, WHICH WAS
WHY THE CVPRIOT GOVERNMENT SOUGHT TO INTERNATIONALIZE
THE ISSUE, AND WHY IT WAS DOING WHAT IT COULD TO
PREVENT THE US EMBAROO BEING LIFTED. THE US APORECIA-
TION OF THE SITUATION WAS MISGUIDED. UN RESOLUTIONS
ON CVPRUS NEEDED TO BE IMPLEMENTED. KYPRIANOU EX-
OECTED THAT HIS UNSSOD PROPOSALS FOR THE DE-MILITARIZA-
TION OF CYPRUS WOULD COME BEFORE THE SECURITY COUNCIL
BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR. HE ASKED UK SUOPORT.
HE INDICATED THAT HE WAS NOT PREPARED TO ENTER INTO
OUADRIOARTITE DISCUSSIONS NOR WOULD HE DEAL DIRECTLV
WITH DENKTASH. HE WAS, HOWEVER, PREPARED TO MEET
WITH ECEVIT IN A PERSONAL CAPACITY.

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4. IN RESPONSE CALLAOHAN WAS POLITE, FRIENDLV BUT
IN SUBSTANCE, FROM KYORIANOU'S STANDPOINT, ALMOST
ENTIRELV NEOATIVE. CALLAOHAN SAID PERHAPS THERE
WAS NO POSSIBILITY OF PROGRESS ON CYPRUS, BUT THAT
OF ALL THE ALTERNATIVES AVAILABLE, HE FELT THAT FURTHER
INTERNATIONALIZATION OF THE ISSUE HAD LEAST TO
RECOMMEND IT. HE SUGGESTED THAT OURSUANCE OF INTER-
COMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS OFFERED THE ONLY HOPE. NEITHER,
CALLAGHAN SAID, DID HE SEE ANY PROFIT IN PURSUINQ KYORI-
ANOU'S UNSSOD PROPOSALS FOR THE DEMILITARIZATION OF CYORUS
HE AGREED THAT A MEETING BETWEEN ECEVIT AND KYORIANOU
WAS DESIRABLE AND ADVISED KVPRIANOU TO TAKE SERIOUSLY
ECEVIT'S REOEATED STATEMENTS TO THE EFFECT THAT HE
DID NOT SUPOORT PARTITION. CALLAGHAN EXPRESSED THE
VIEW THAT THE POSITION ADVANCED BY MAKARIOS IN 1977
OFFERED THE ONLV POSSIBLE OATH TOWARD A RESOLUTION OF
THE PROBLEM. KYORIANOU REOLIED THAT MAKARIOS'
OOOR HEALTH HAD INFLUENCED HIM IN MAKING THESE
PROPOSALS AND CLAIMED THAT MAKARIOS HAD ONLY A FEW
DAVS BEFORE HIS DEATH TOLD KVPRIANOU THAT HE REGRETTED

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FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
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EXDIS

HAVING MADE THEM. NEVERTHELESS, KYORIANOU SAID,
THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS STOOD BEHIND THEM
AND WAS WILLING TO ACCEPT A BIZONAL FEDERATION.

5. CALLAOHAN AND KYORIANOU MET FOR ABOUT 20 MINUTES
ENTIRELY PRIVATELY. DURING THIS PART OF THE CONVERSA-
TION KVPRIANOU REFERRED TO A STATEMENT MADE BY MINISTER
OF DEFENCE MULLEY AT A WESTERN EUROPEAN UNION MEETINQ
IN WHICH HE INDICATED A WILLINGNESS TO GIVE UP THE
SOVEREION BASE AREAS IF IT WOULD PROMOTE A SETTLEMENT.
DAUNT EMPHASIZED TO EMBOFF THAT MULLEY HAD ON THIS
OCCASSION MUDDLED HIS BRIEF. THERE HAS BEEN NO
CHANGE IN THE UK POSITION ON THIS ISSUE. CALLAGHAN,
IN RESPONDING TO KVPRIANOU, HAD SO INDICATED. HE HAD
SAID THAT, SHOULD THE TIME COME WHEN IT APPEARED
THAT A SETTLEMENT COULD BE BROUGHT TO CONCLUSION
BY SOME TERRITORIAL ADJUSTMENT INVOLVING THE SOVEREIGN
BASE AREAS, THE UK WOULD BE WILLING TO CONSIDER SUCH A
STEP. IT HAD, CALLAOHAN SAID, NOT AS YET DONE SO.

6. DAUNT NOTED THAT THE ATMOSPHERE AT THE MEETING
HAD BEEN CORDIAL AND THE EXCHANGES POLITE AND GOOD
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NATURED. WHILE KYORIANOU SEEMS TO HAVE ACHIEVED HIS PRINCIPAL,ESSENTIALLY PUBLIC RELATION PURPOSE IN THE VISIT. DAUNT THOUGHT HE OROBABLY HAD BEEN MILDLY DISAPPOINTED WITH CALLAOHAN'S RESPONSE TO HIS PRESEN-TATION. DAUNT ALSO FELT THAT THE PRINCIPLE IM-PRESSION KYPRIANOU HAD PROBABLY LEFT ON CALLAOHAN WAS ONE OF UNREASONABLE RIGIDITV.

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